

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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Applicant's or agent's file reference 04FREF039	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/KR2004/002925	International filing date (day/month/year) 12 NOVEMBER 2004 (12.11.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 14 NOVEMBER 2003 (14.11.2003)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC7 F25D 23/00			
Applicant LG ELECTRONICS INC. et al			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:

sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

Box No. I Basis of the report

Box No. II Priority

Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Box No. VI Certain documents cited

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 30 MAY 2005 (30.05.2005)	Date of completion of this report 20 DECEMBER 2005 (20.12.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/KR Korean Intellectual Property Office 920 Dunsan-dong, Seo-gu, Daejeon 302-701, Republic of Korea	Authorized officer KIM, Eun Rae
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International application No.

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Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language English, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:
 pages _____ received by this Authority on _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:
 pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:
 pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1 - 21	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1 - 21	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1 - 21	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: KR 2004-0080076 A
 D2: KR 20-0328248 Y1
 D3: KR 2004-0069636 A
 D4: KR 2000-0015414 A
 D5: US 6,483,695 B1
 D6: JP 2000-274923 A

Claims 1-21 relate to a refrigerator characterized in that a pair of clamps are installed for attaching a communication pad to a refrigerator door or a homebar door, and that if the communication pad is pushed in by a predetermined force, it is inserted between the pair of clamps.

D1 and D2 relate to a refrigerator characterized in that a display unit can be moved, by using an elastic member, to a withdrawal position which enables a user to take the display unit out with ease. D3 relates to a refrigerator having stationary means on which a monitor can station when a monitor device is detached from a main body. D4 relates to a locking method of key input of a refrigerator, characterized in that the lock of inputted data is set by setting a password for a control panel of the refrigerator. D5 relates to a refrigerator having a computer and a keyboard installed at a door thereof. D6 relates to a refrigerator having an LCD device for displaying various information.

1. Novelty and Inventive Step

According to claims 1-21 of the present application, a pair of clamps are installed for attaching a communication pad and supporting the communication pad in both directions, and consequently the communication pad can be stably attached to and easily detached from a refrigerator door. However, no technical feature for fixing a communication pad in both directions is disclosed in D1-D3. D4-D6 include a locking method of key input of a refrigerator and a technical feature for displaying various information of the refrigerator, but do not include any technical feature for attaching/detaching a communication pad.

(Continued on Supplemental Sheet.)

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

The description of the present application is considered to include several errors in numbering of figures. That is to say, it is considered that Fig. 5b on the upper portion of page 10 should be replaced with Fig. 6, that Fig. 6 on the lower portion of page 10 should be replaced with Fig. 7, and that Fig. 9 on the lower portion of page 12 should be replaced with Fig. 10.

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Supplemental Box**In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.**

Continuation of:

Box V.

Therefore, the subject matter of claims 1–21 is considered to be novel under PCT Article 33(2).

A combination of said documents does not deny the inventive step for the subject matter of said claims. Therefore, the subject matter of said claims is also considered to involve an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3).

2. Industrial Applicability

Since claims 1–21 relate to a refrigerator having a communication pad attached to a door thereof, the subject matter of claims 1–21 is considered to be industrially applicable under PCT Article 33(4).